## REMARKS

Claims 1-31 and 33-54 remain pending in this application for consideration. Claim 32 has been canceled. Claims 1, 14, 30 and 37 have been amended.

The present invention is directed to a system and method for generating content in a staging area on a network, and in turn transferring the content from the staging area to a production area on the network. The production area is accessible by end users whereby the content is provided to the end users in response to user requests from the network.

In a first aspect of the invention, the content is automatically transferred from a staging server in the staging area to two or more production servers at substantially the same time in response to a publish command received in the staging server. This allows for the automatic transfer of content to multiple production servers in a synchronous manner. In operation, end users accessing any of the production servers can be assured of retrieving exactly the same content.

In a second aspect of the invention, a firewall is used to limit access to the staging area, wherein a first user associated with a first access level is allowed to control the transfer of content from the staging area to the production area, and a second user associated with a second access level is allowed to control the generation of content within the staging area. This security feature ensures that only those individuals with the proper authorization can access the staging area to perform specified tasks.

In a third aspect of the invention, the staging content transferred from the staging area to the production area can be replaced with the original production content that resided in the production area prior to publication in response to a rollback command received in the staging

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area. This provides for a rollback to the previous version of the content if desired, such as if a

problem is encountered with a particular production server upon publication.

## Rejections Under 35 U.S.C § 103

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-54 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over

U.S. Patent No. 6,199,082 to Ferrel *et al.* ("Ferrel") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,134,582 to

Chang *et al.* ("Chang"). Ferrel discloses a multimedia publishing system wherein the layout and

content components of a publication (such as an on-line newspaper or magazine) are <u>separated</u>

and uploaded to a server. Because the layout used by a publisher typically remains constant, the

upload of the layout component of the publication to the server is only performed on a limited

basis (*e.g.*, upon initial creation of the publication). By contrast, because the content changes on

a regular basis, the content component of the publication is uploaded to the server on a regular

basis. When an end user initially accesses the server, both the format and content components of

the publication are downloaded to the end user. Subsequent downloads transmit only the content

component to the end user because the format component is cached on the end user's computer

after the initial download. Ferrel discloses that this publication scheme allows for the

transmission of data in bandwidth limited environments. Chang discloses a system and method

for scheduling the download of data such as web pages, databases or software, over a network

such as the Internet.

Independent Claims 1, 14 and 30 (as amended) and Claim 51 of the present invention

(from which Claims 2-13, 15-29, 31, 33-36 and 52-54 depend) include the limitation that a

<u>staging server</u> connected to the network <u>automatically</u> transfer content generated on the staging

server to first and second production servers <u>at substantially the same time</u> in response to a

publish command. Neither Ferrel nor Chang disclose this limitation. First, Ferrel does not

disclose a staging area that can be used to generate content. The portion of Ferrel relied on by

the Examiner to support his proposition that Ferrel does disclose such a staging area (namely,

Ferrel col. 10, lns. 23-25) merely states that, after creation, a publication is published to a public

distribution point. This public distribution point is <u>not</u> a staging area used to generate content.

Rather, in Ferrel, the layout and content components of the publication are created on a <u>publisher</u>

<u>workstation</u> and subsequently published to the public distribution point for download by a

customer. *See* Ferrel col. 10, lns. 23-26; col. 11, lns. 46-62. In addition, Ferrel does not disclose

that the layout and/or content components of the publication can be automatically transferred

from the publisher workstation to multiple servers at substantially the same time. In fact, Ferrel

teaches away from such a system by providing a publication scheme that can be utilized in

bandwidth limited environments (which would not support the simultaneous transmission of

content to multiple servers). Chang merely discloses a system and method for scheduling the

download of data over a network, not the generation of content on a staging server and automatic

transfer of the content to multiple production servers at the same time. Therefore, these claims

are patentable over Ferrel and Chang.

Independent Claim 37 (as amended) of the present invention (from which Claims 38-40

depend) includes the limitation that a firewall operably limits access to the staging area.

Specifically, a first user associated with a first access level is allowed to control generation of the

content, and a second user associated with a second access level is allowed to control transfer of

the content to the production area. Neither Ferrel nor Chang disclose this limitation. As stated

above, Ferrel does not disclose a staging server for generating content, and does not disclose a

firewall that limits access to a staging server as claimed. In fact, Ferrel teaches away from

limiting access by suggesting that a wide variety of different people have access to a publication

during creation, such as editors, developers, writers, reporters, graphics artists, advertising sales staff and production staff. *See* Ferrel col. 16, ln. 30 to col. 18, ln. 29. Chang also does not disclose an access-protected staging server for generating content. Therefore, these claims are also patentable over Ferrel and Chang.

Independent Claims 41 and 46 of the present invention (from which Claims 42-45 and 47-50 depend) include the limitation that the staging content transferred from the staging area to the production area can be replaced with the original production content in response to a rollback *undo command* command. Neither Ferrel nor Chang even remotely disclose this limitation. Therefore, these claims are also patentable over Ferrel and Chang.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made".

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance and eventual issuance. Such action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further questions or comments which need be addressed in order to obtain allowance, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Acknowledgement of receipt is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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## VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

**In the Claims:**

Claim 32 has been canceled.

Claims 1, 14, 30 and 37 have been amended as follows:

1.      (Amended) A system for publishing network content, the system comprising:

(a)     first and second production servers for providing content in response to requests from at least one network; and

(b)     a staging area operatively connected to the first and second production processors and the at least one network, the staging area for generating the content and automatically transferring the content to the first and second production servers at substantially the same time in response to a publish command.


14.     (Amended) A method for publishing content on a computer network, the method comprising the steps of:

(a)     generating the content in a staging area;

(b)     receiving a publish command in the staging area;

(c)     automatically transferring the content to first and second production servers at substantially the same time in response to step (b); and

(d)     providing the content in response to requests from the computer network with at least one server selected from the group consisting of: the first and second production servers.


30.     (Amended) A method for publishing content on a computer network, the method comprising the steps of:

(a)     providing a staging area on the computer network;

(b)     limiting access to the staging area, the access comprising at least two access

levels;

(c)     generating the content in the staging area; [and]

(d)     restricting step (c) in response to a command associated with one of the at least

two access levels;

(e)     receiving a publish command in the staging area; and

(f)     automatically transferring the content to first and second production servers at

substantially the same time in response to step (e).

37.     (Amended) A system for publishing content on a computer network, the system

comprising:

a staging server and associated software comprising a staging area on the computer

network, the staging area operable to allow generation of the content and transfer of the content

to a production area; and

a firewall operable to limit access to the staging area to at least two access levels, the

firewall operatively connected to the staging server;

wherein a first user associated with a first of the at least two access levels [restricts the

generation of the content by a second user associated with a second of the at least two access

levels in response to a command] is allowed to control generation of the content, and wherein a

second user associated with a second of the at least two access levels is allowed to control

transfer of the content to the production area.

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